



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

***Raised Bill No. 6923***

LCO No. 4421

\*04421\_\_\_\_\_ED\_\*

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:  
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING TRUANCY.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) Any local or regional school  
2       board that operates a school with a drop-out rate higher than the state  
3       average shall (1) form a truancy response team at such school, and (2)  
4       provide early intervention services for any child ages five to sixteen,  
5       inclusive, who has received two or more suspensions from a school  
6       within the school district under the jurisdiction of such board during  
7       the previous or current school year.

8       Sec. 2. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 10-198a of the general  
9       statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
10      (*Effective July 1, 2005*):

11      (b) Each local and regional board of education shall adopt and  
12      implement policies and procedures concerning truants who are  
13      enrolled in schools under the jurisdiction of such board of education.  
14      Such policies and procedures shall include, but need not be limited to,  
15      the following: (1) The holding of a meeting with the parent of each  
16      child who is a truant, or other person having control of such child, and

17 appropriate school personnel to review and evaluate the reasons for  
18 the child being a truant, ~~[provided]~~ and requiring that such meeting  
19 ~~[shall]~~ be held not later than ten school days after the child's fourth  
20 unexcused absence in a month or tenth unexcused absence in a school  
21 year, (2) a visit by appropriate school personnel to the home of each  
22 child in a grade from kindergarten to nine, inclusive, whose parent, or  
23 other person having control of such child, refuses or fails to attend a  
24 meeting held pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, (3)  
25 coordinating services with and referrals of children to community  
26 agencies providing child and family services, ~~[(3)]~~ (4) annually at the  
27 beginning of the school year and upon any enrollment during the  
28 school year, notifying the parent or other person having control of each  
29 child enrolled ~~[in a grade from kindergarten to eight, inclusive,]~~ in the  
30 public schools in writing of the obligations of the parent or such other  
31 person pursuant to section 10-184, ~~[(4)]~~ (5) annually at the beginning of  
32 the school year and upon any enrollment during the school year,  
33 obtaining from the parent or other person having control of each child,  
34 ~~[in a grade from kindergarten to eight, inclusive,]~~ a telephone number  
35 or other means of contacting such parent or such other person during  
36 the school day, and ~~[(5)]~~ (6) a system of monitoring individual  
37 unexcused absences of children, ~~[in grades kindergarten to eight,~~  
38 ~~inclusive,]~~ which ~~[shall provide]~~ requires that whenever a child  
39 enrolled in school ~~[in any such grade]~~ fails to report to school on a  
40 regularly scheduled school day and no indication has been received by  
41 school personnel that the child's parent or other person having control  
42 of the child is aware of the pupil's absence, a reasonable effort to  
43 notify, by telephone, the parent or such other person ~~[shall]~~ be made  
44 by school personnel or volunteers under the direction of school  
45 personnel. Any person who, in good faith, gives or fails to give notice  
46 pursuant to subdivision ~~[(5)]~~ (6) of this subsection shall be immune  
47 from any liability, civil or criminal, which might otherwise be incurred  
48 or imposed and shall have the same immunity with respect to any  
49 judicial proceeding which results from such notice or failure to give  
50 such notice.

51 (c) If the parent or other person having control of a child who is a  
 52 truant fails to attend [the] a meeting held pursuant to subdivision (1)  
 53 of subsection (b) of this section or if such parent or other person  
 54 otherwise fails to cooperate with the school in attempting to solve the  
 55 truancy problem, and school personnel have visited the home of such  
 56 child pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, such  
 57 policies and procedures shall require the superintendent of schools to  
 58 file for each such truant enrolled in the schools under his jurisdiction  
 59 (1) a written complaint with the Superior Court pursuant to section  
 60 46b-149 alleging the belief that the acts or omissions of the child are  
 61 such that his family is a family with service needs, and (2) a report of  
 62 educational neglect with the Department of Children and Families  
 63 based on truancy.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	10-198a(b) and (c)

***Statement of Purpose:***

To provide early intervention services to children in order to reduce truancy.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*